

Appl. No.: 10/756,855

Amdt. Dated November 21, 2005

Response to Office Action Mailed August 24, 2005

REMARKS:

Applicant appreciates the time and care the examiner has taken in examining the application.

Applicant notes that the certified copy of the priority document will be filed in the near future by mail.

The amendments to claim 1 are supported in the specification at, among other places, p. 7 lines 2-28; p. 9 line 20 to p.10 line 13; and p. 11 line 1 to p. 12 line 8.

The rejections under Sections 103(a) are hereby respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons. The electric distance meter according to amended claim 1 emits measuring light by a device configured to generate a modulation signal for modulating measuring light which is irradiated to an object to be measured, a pulse signal generation device configured to periodically generate an intermittent pulse signal for generating intermittent modulated measuring light by intermittently adding the modulation signal to a light emitting element, and an AND circuit, which overlaps the modulation signal to the pulse signal, and comprises a mixing circuit, which mixes the measuring light reflected from the object and an internal frequency signal, and generates a beat signal of an intermittent different frequency signal, a sampling circuit, which samples a signal generation period of the intermittent difference frequency signal with a predetermined interval, a storing device configured to store sampling data, and an arithmetic logical unit, which calculates a phase difference based on the sampling data stored in the storing device.

As clearly described in amended claim 1, the present invention utilizes the combination of the pulse signal and the beat signal. Such a combination of the pulse signal and the beat signal is not disclosed in the cited references. Also, none of the cited references teach or suggest the structure described in amended claim 1. It is therefore submitted that the Section 103(a) rejections should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for prompt allowance and that all of the objections, rejections and requirements raised in the Office action have been met. Early, favorable treatment of this application is requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees under 37 CFR § 1.17(a) for any necessary extensions of time under 37 CFR §1.136(a), which are hereby requested, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0305. The Examiner is encouraged to call Robert J. Schneider at the direct number (312) 845-3919 with any questions that arise in connection with this application, or to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,



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